

The Christ Church History and Archives committee has been formed to collect, document and preserve the material and social history of the Parish and to encourage participation and involvement of all parishioners.

The Floral Ministry

Flowers, an important part of Anglican liturgical practice, can trace their origins to pre-reformation times. Then the Pope customarily gave English princes and rulers a golden rose, when they were in favour. Today flowers are often in keeping with the liturgical colours of the season. Some parishes avoid the use of flowers during Lent, while others use them throughout the liturgical year as a sign of God's splendour.

Flowers played an important role on Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent. It was the day that you went to the parish of your baptism, or the day in which your servants were allowed to visit their families. Often the children would pick flowers along the paths to give to their mothers, to place on their graves, or to leave at the church.

Most Anglican churches in Canada have floral placements at their Altars, in their chapels and at the baptismal font. There they commemorate major milestones in the lives of parishioners. With some thought to the colours of the liturgical season, in Christ Church flower arrangements are never be taller than the cross, of classic design, big enough to be seen, but never ostentatious. Christ Church has followed the practice of having flowers all year, except for Palm Sunday. Like in many Anglican churches flowers are placed on the altar by the Altar or Flower Guild. Like most parishes, flowers are eventually distributed to shut-ins and those experiencing personal grief.

Since 1985, the Altar Guild Flower Convener has maintained Christ Church's Anglican floral traditions. There are three rosters, one for the main Altar, a second for the Chapel and a third for the Baptismal Font, to ensure fresh flowers every Sunday, except on Palm Sunday, when the main Altar is adorned with palms. T

The flower arrangements are generally donated by parishioners, who maintain their donation the same Sunday every year. If there is an unfilled spot an advertisement is placed in the Bulletin. The Flower Convener calls the donor a week in advance to confirm the placement, and the message to be inserted in the Bulletin. The Flower Convener calls the florist each week to confirm the order, which then arrives on Friday for placement.

Parishioners are invited to contact John Mendham (jhmendham@telus.net) or other committee members, if they would like a longer historical essay on this subject, or if they have oral or tangible records they would like to donate.



Recent arrangements: top left for the Altar, top right for the Baptistry and bottom centre for the Lady Chapel.

History Article #9. Published November 2019.

| | | | | | |
|--------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------|----------------|
| Horne | 1913 – 1929 | Tatchell | 1966 – 1980 | Tucker | 2005 – 2015 |
| Luxton | 1930 – 1933 | Curtis | 1980 – 1983 | Belcher | 2015 – 2016 |
| Kemp | 1933 – 1944 | O'Driscoll | 1984 – 1992 | Pickett | 2016 – Present |
| Crump | 1944 – 1960 | Boyles | 1992 – 1993 | | |
| Dowker | 1960 – 1966 | Pike | 1993 – 2003 | | |